

Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services
Don Jordan, Secretary

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Economic and Employment Support - Bobbi Mariani, Director (785) 296-3349
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MEMORANDUM

TO: EES Program Administrators
Asst. Regional Directors
Regional Directors

Date: November 25, 2009

From: Bobbi Mariani, Director
Economic and Employment Support

RE: General Assistance
Lifetime Limit Change

This memo provides information and implementation instructions regarding the reduced lifetime limit for Tier II recipients under the General Assistance Program. This change will be incorporated into the Kansas Economic and Employment Support Manual (KEESM) January 2010 Revision:

Overview of Change

Time limited Assistance – Effective January 1, 2010, General Assistance cases that are Tier II eligible, are only allowed to receive a maximum of 12 months lifetime benefits. Tier I cases are not affected by this change

Cases having received 12 months lifetime of GA benefits on or before January 1, 2010 are to be closed using a closure code of "12". Notice G414 (GA/Medikan Closure 12 Month Limit (Tier II)) is to be used when closing these cases. Workers have been provided with an accompanying report of potential cases that may be impacted by this policy change.

However, some persons identified on the report as Tier II are reflected on KAECSES as Tier I or visa versa. The actual case status must be evaluated to determine the correct tier and corrected both in the case file and on the system. Communication with PMDT may be required. The disparities in tier determinations must be resolved before notification to the customer can be sent.

When taking action on these cases, a new TPQY is to be requested to determine if there is an active Social Security Disability application. If there is, the worker is to keep

the MS case pending (or if it is not currently showing MS pending, establish a pending MS). If there is not an active Social Security Disability application, then close the MS pending case.

All Tier II cases that are not being closed for having received 12 or more months of GA benefits are to be sent the informational notice, V113 (GA Tier II Time Limit Information) which notifies them of the change in the lifetime limit.

GA applications for individuals that have already received the lifetime limit for GA but are claiming a new condition or the worsening of an existing condition may be referred to PMDT for a determination for Medicaid only. These cases are not eligible for a GA cash benefit because they have used their lifetime limit. This is applicable even if they were a Tier II case that has used their 12 month lifetime limit and are later, (after closure for the 12 month limit) determined to be Tier I eligible. For ongoing Tier II cases that have not yet reached their 12 month review, workers are to set an alert to take appropriate action on cases for each case as it reaches the 12 month lifetime limit.

Fair Hearing Requests

Customers impacted by this action are subject to the fair hearing provisions. Per KEESM 1615, if the customer is disagreeing with the 12 month lifetime limit of the General Assistance case due to the reduction necessitated by the reduction of appropriations, procedures regarding dismissal of the hearing are applicable.

Please notify Ruth Arensdorf of any Fair Hearing requests as a result of this change via email. Include the customer's name, case number and if the customer has retained legal representation.

If staff have any questions about these changes, please contact:

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